



The President's Daily Brief

25 August 1970

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

25 August 1970

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

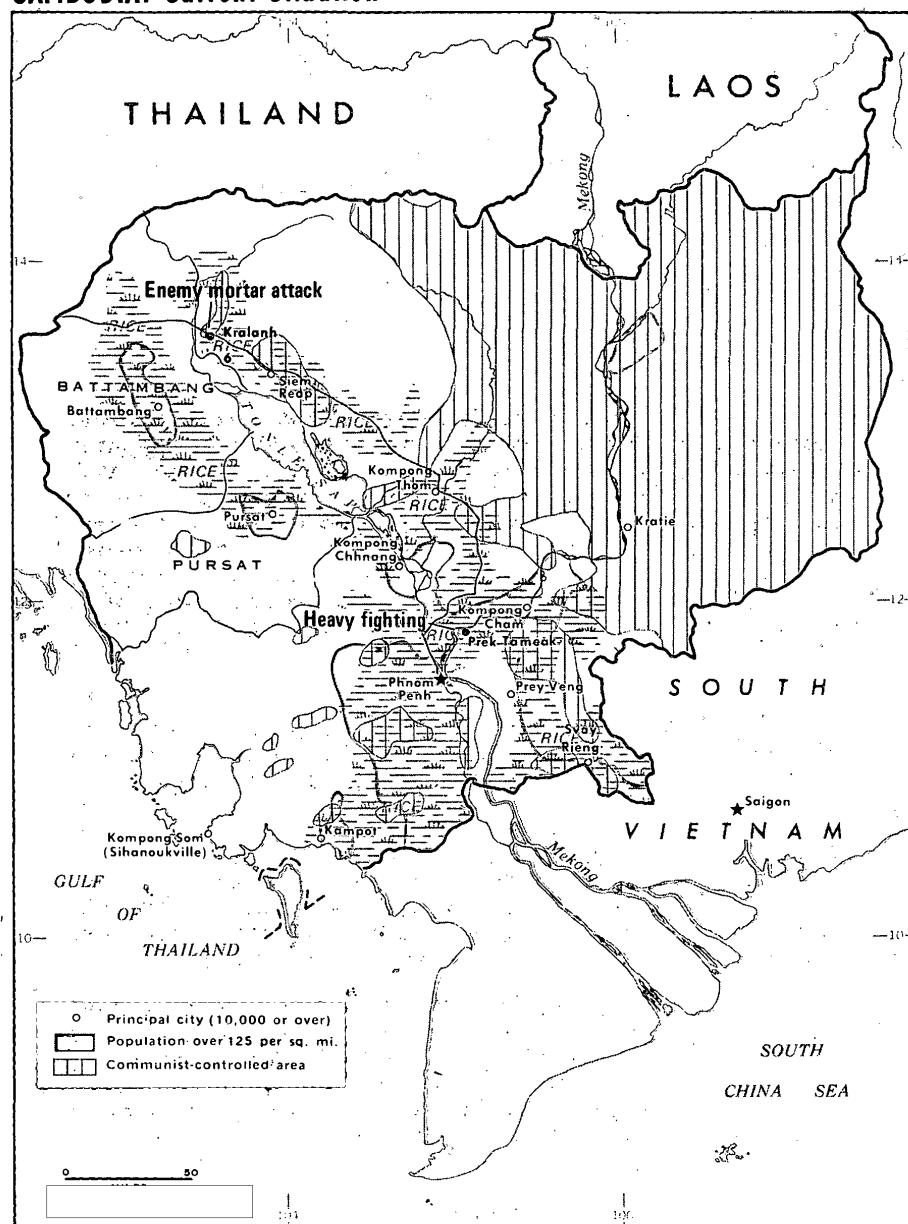
The situation in Cambodia is discussed on *Page 1*.

President Pak's recent call for peaceful reunification has struck a sensitive nerve in Pyongyang.
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CAMBODIA: Current Situation



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CAMBODIA

Communist military activity continues in western Cambodia. Government battalions defending Kralanh town were hit by a mortar attack on 23 August. Route 6 on both sides of Siem Reap city is insecure; several civilian vehicles have been ambushed less than two miles west of the city in recent days.

To the south, Cambodian troops have captured several Vietnamese Communists in a sweep operation in Pursat Province. There were earlier indications that the enemy in the province may be attempting to link up with indigenous Communist elements in the west.

Enemy forces last evening again attacked the village of Prek Tameak. Government troops, supported by gunboats and aircraft, repulsed the attackers.

* * *

Sihanouk's exile government claims it plans to start operating soon in the "liberated areas" of Cambodia. According to a communiqué broadcast over radio Hanoi on 24 August, the "government's" central committee has decided on a gradual movement of a number of ministries from Peking into Cambodia. There have been a number of reports--unconfirmed--that Sihanouk's "ministers" of national defense, interior, and information are already in Cambodia.

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KOREA

Pyongyang has replied to Seoul's recent call for peaceful reunification (see The President's Daily Brief of 15 August) in a manner clearly reflecting North Korea's concern over this challenge to its own propaganda offensive. An editorial in the official government newspaper on 23 August called Pak's proposal a "vicious trick" designed to deceive the Korean people. The article repeated Pyongyang's two long-standing conditions for reunification--withdrawal of all US forces from Korea and the overthrow of the Pak government. Pyongyang also flatly rejected any role for the UN in reunification.

The editorial also reflects North Korean concern over ties between Seoul and Tokyo. Lashing out at Pak for accepting "foreign monopoly capital," the editorial demanded that the Japanese also be expelled from South Korea as a precondition for reunification.

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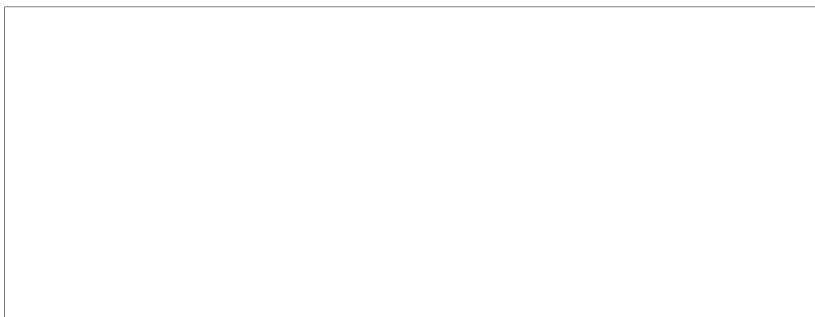
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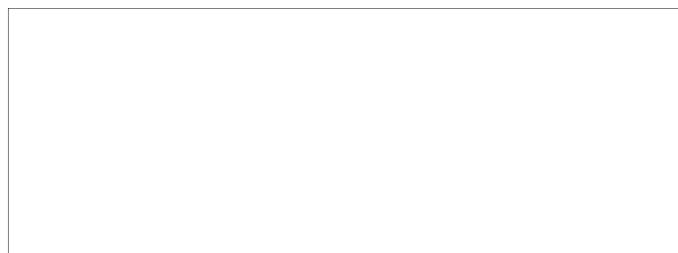
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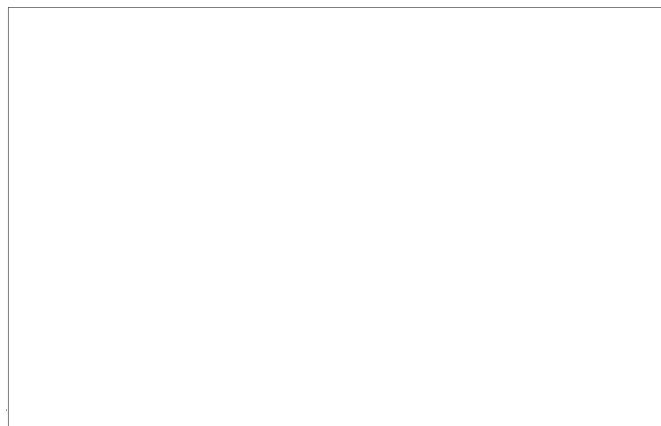


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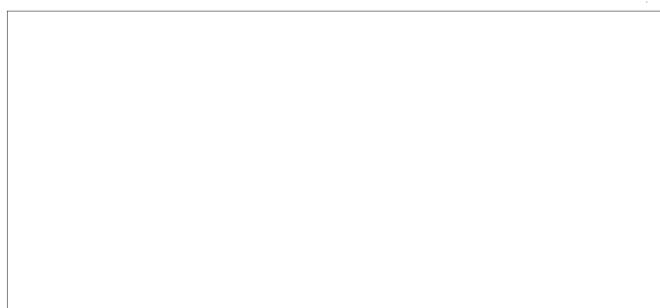
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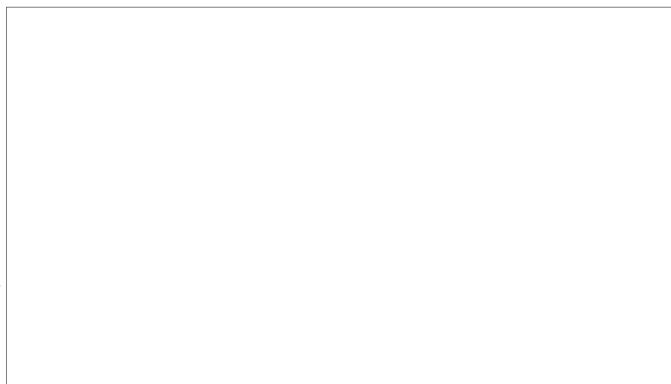


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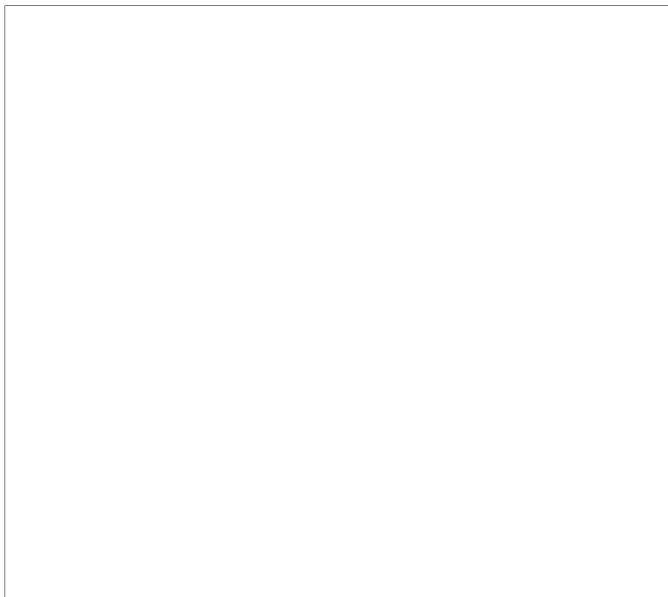


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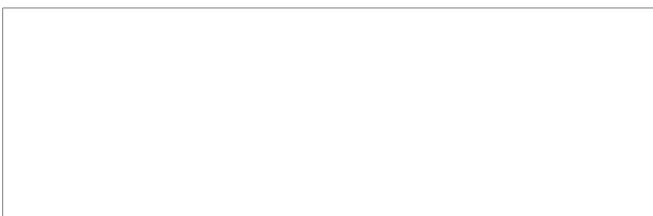
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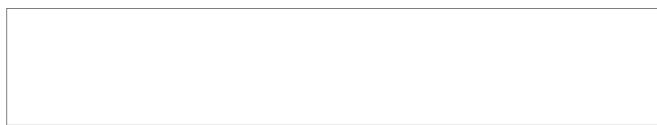
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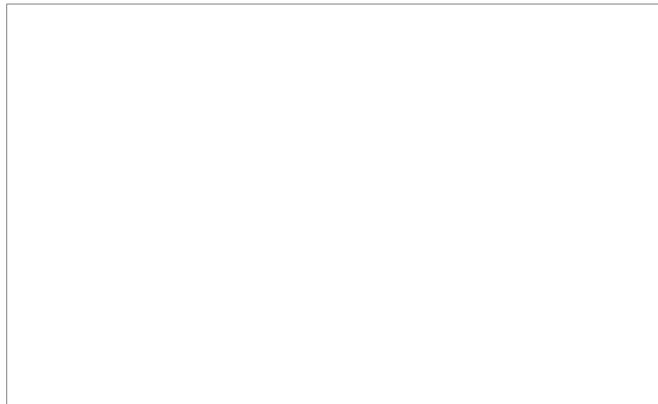
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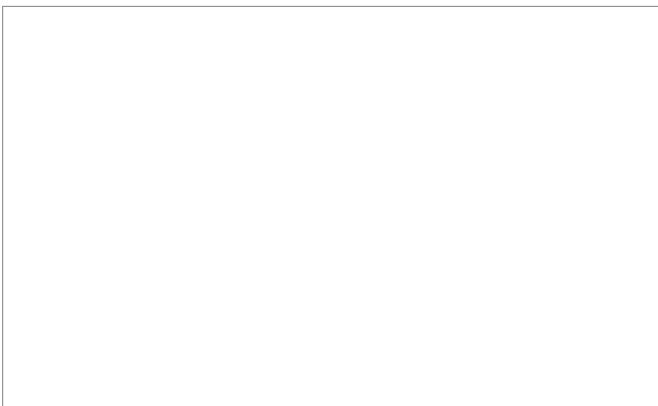
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